

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:
Monday, July 13, 2015

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Scheduled for July 20th

I-20 WELCOME CENTER IN TALLAPOOSA TO CLOSE FOR RENOVATIONS

TALLAPOOSA, GA – The Georgia Welcome Center on Interstate 20 in Tallapoosa will close for renovations starting Monday, July 20 for a maximum of 55 days. Motorists will have no access to the Welcome Center driveway, parking areas or building during the July 20 to September 13 renovation and beautification time. Signs are up informing visitors of the scheduled closure.

Renovations to the Georgia Welcome Center in Tallapoosa will include remodeling, replacement and/or repair of most systems in the building from the roof, drywall, façade and gate; replacement of HVAC system; rewiring and replacement of light fixtures with LED light fixtures; replacement of the drywall and painting the entire building to re-pavement of the truck parking area, repair of picnic benches and canopies, restriping parking lots, and landscaping.

The 5,900 square foot Welcome Center on I-20 opened in 1979 and was last renovated in 2004.

These major renovations are expected to be completed by September 12, 2015, at a construction cost of \$915,000. The Welcome Center is scheduled to be reopened by September 13 or once remodeling and retrofitting work is complete. Motorists will not be able to access the Welcome Center driveway, parking areas or building during the July 20 to September 13 construction time.

Funds for the renovation and beautification of the Georgia welcome centers and rest areas come from revenues collected from the Georgia LOGO program. The Georgia LOGO program offers businesses advertising along highway interchanges through placement of names and logos on signs approaching exits. It generates approximately \$3.3 million annually.

DriveAlert ArriveAlive calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. **DriveAlert ArriveAlive** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA. #ArriveAliveGA For more information about Georgia DOT, visit www.dot.ga.gov. You also may follow us on (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT-Northwest) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/GDOTNW) (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNW>).

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